

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 25, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2218**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Williams**

February 24, 2012

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An act to add Chapter 4.9 (commencing with Section 24540) to Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to consumer safety.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 2218, as amended, Williams. Consumer safety: table saws.

Existing law prohibits the sale of various types of products that are determined to be unsafe for the public, including, among others, specified bunk beds, infant cribs, and toys. Existing state regulations require certain types of table saws to be guarded by a hood and to contain various safety features to prevent injury.

This bill would prohibit a seller, on or after January 1, 2015, from selling a new table saw in this state unless that table saw is equipped with active injury mitigation technology, as defined. ~~The bill would make a seller who violates these provisions subject to a civil fine not exceeding \$5,000 per sale. The bill would authorize the Attorney General to maintain an action against any seller who violates these provisions, as specified.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~yes~~-no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 4.9 (commencing with Section 24540)
- 2 is added to Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

## CHAPTER 4.9. TABLE SAW SAFETY ACT

24540. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Table Saw Safety Act.

24541. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(a) “Active injury mitigation technology” means technology to detect contact with, or dangerous proximity between, a hand or finger and the teeth of the blade above the table top of a table saw, and to prevent the blade from cutting the hand or finger deeper than one-eighth of an inch when the hand or finger approaches any portion of the blade above the table top at a speed of one foot per second from any direction and along any path. Notwithstanding the prior sentence, active injury mitigation technology may be temporarily deactivated by a person so that a saw can cut material which would otherwise be detected as a person.

(b) “Seller” means any person who deals in or engages in the business of selling table saws or any other person who sells table saws in this state.

(c) “Table saw” means a saw that is designed primarily for cutting wood with a generally planar, circular blade having teeth around its periphery and having a nominal diameter of 12 inches or less, where the table saw includes a table top for supporting a work piece, and where at least a portion of the blade extends above the table top to cut a work piece on the table top. Table saws vary in price, size, weight, motors, drive systems, stands, housings, and other features. Common names of various types of table saws include, but are not limited to, bench saws, bench top saws, contractor saws, hybrid saws, and cabinet saws.

24542. ~~(a)~~ On or after January 1, 2015, a seller shall not sell any new table saw in this state unless that table saw is equipped with active injury mitigation technology.

~~(b) Any seller who violates subdivision (a) is subject to a civil fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each sale.~~

~~(c) The Attorney General may maintain an action against any seller who violates subdivision (a) for injunctive and any other appropriate relief.~~